

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5641

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T USUN 0364

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CY

SUBJ: CYPRUS: PROSPECTS FOR VIENNA IV

1. SUMMARY. SYG WALDHEIM CONVOKED REPRESENTATIVES OF US, UK, FRANCE AND THE NETHERLANDS (THE LATTER AS ACTING EC-9 CHAIRMAN) JANUARY 30 AND BRIEFED THEM ON HIS EFFORTS TO SCHEDULE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON BASIS OF BRUSSELS AGREEMENT. HE EMPHASIZED DILIGENCE OF HIS EFFORT TO ARRANGE SIGNIFICANT TALKS BETWEEN CLERIDES AND DENKTASH AND URGED THAT GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT THE BRIEFING USE THEIR INFLUENCE IN ANKARA, ATHENS AND NICOSIA TO BRING ABOUT TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. WHEN HE HAD ON DECEMBER 19 RECEIVED MINUTES OF BRUSSELS MEETING, WALDHEIM HAD IMMEDIATELY PROPOSED TALKS IN NEW YORK ON JANUARY 7. WHEN THIS DATE PROVED TOO EARLY FOR BOTH SIDES, HE SUGGESTED JANUARY 17, BUT THE TURKS HAD INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT BE READY BEFORE FEBRUARY. WALDHEIM AND TURKISH AMBASSADOR TURKMEN HAS AGREED ON FEBRUARY 2, BUT ONCE AGAIN DENKTASH HAD SAID NO, PROPOSING THAT TALKS TAKE PLACE IN SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY. WALDHEIM HAS NOW PROPOSED FEBRUARY 17, BUT STILL AWAITS ANSWER FROM DENKTASH.

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TURKMEN INSISTS THAT ANKARA FAVORS THIS DATE BUT DENKTASH

WANTS "TO CLARIFY A FEW POINTS."

3. IT IS THE GREEK VIEW, WALDHEIM SAID, THAT TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS, CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS AND THE POWER STRUCTURE SHOULD ALL BE DISCUSSED. THEY INSIST THAT THIS AGENDA WAS AGREED UPON AT BRUSSELS. DENKTASH MAINTAINS THAT MEETING SHOULD BE SOLELY PROCEDURAL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING SUB-COMMITTEES TO PURSUE GEOGRAPHICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS. THE GREEKS RECOGNIZED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES HAD BEEN FORESEEN IN BRUSSELS, BUT INSIST THAT THEIR PURPOSE WOULD BE TO SPELL OUT THE RESULTS OF BASIC AGREEMENT THAT WOULD FIRST BE ACHIEVED ON THESE AT CLERIDES-DENKTASH LEVEL.

4. WALDHEIM ALSO RECOUNTED THE CHOICE OF VIENNA AS SITE FOR THE RESUMED TALKS, DISCUSSING THE TURKS REJECTION OF NEW YORK AND THE ULTIMATE SELECTION OF VIENNA OVER TEHRAN.

5. WALDHEIM SAID THE GREEKS WERE WILLING TO MEET ON FEBRUARY 17 ON BASIS OF BRUSSELS AGREEMENT. CLERIDES HAD PROPOSED THAT HE BE ACCOMPANIED AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE BY TWO ADVISERS. WALDHEIM THOUGHT THIS IDEA, WHICH TURKS UNDERSTANDABLY REJECTED, MIGHT BE ABANDONED IF AGREEMENT REACHED ON OTHER ISSUES. WALDHEIM SAID HE HAD ASKED THE TURKS FOR AN URGENT ANSWER TO THE PROPOSAL OF THE FEBRUARY 17 DATE SO THAT HE COULD MAKE A FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE FAR EAST SUNDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 1. HE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THOSE PRESENT WOULD USE THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE CAPITALS INVOLVED TO ILLICIT AGREEMENT.

6. THE SYG INITIALLY SAID THAT HE BELIEVED IT NOT BE JUSTIFIABLE TO CONVENE MEETING AT VIENNA UNLESS THE THREE SUBSTANTIVE POINTS AGREED TO AT BRUSSELS WERE TO BE DEALT WITH. HE LATER TRIMMED THIS JUDGMENT, SAYING HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE WORTH RISKING A MEETING IF HE COULD GET DENKTASH'S AGREEMENT TO "DISCUSS GENUINELY" OR TO "RESPOND TO" PROPOSALS BY CLERIDES THAT MIGHT BE LIMITED TO THE GEOGRAPHIC QUESTION. HE SAID GREEKS WERE UNDERSTANDABLY UNWILLING TO MAKE TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS WITHOUT ASSURANCES THAT THE TURKS WOULD RESPOND SUBSTANTIVELY.

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OTHERWISE, THE GREEK SIDE WOULD HAVE MADE AN IMPORTANT CONCESSION AND GOTTEN NOTHING IN RETURN FOR IT.

7. ALL PRESENT THANKED WALDHEIM FOR THE BRIEFING AND UNDERTOOK TO COMMUNICATE TO GOVERNMENTS. DE GUIRINGAUD SAID FRENCH THINK ALL THREE OF SUBSTANTIVE POINTS AGREED ON AT BRUSSELS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BUT DID NOT PRESS THE POINT. THE UK REPRESENTATIVE (MURRAY) STRESSED NECESSITY

OF ENSURING THAT CLERIDES' TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS BE SUFFICIENTLY REALISTIC THAT DENKTASH WOULD HAVE NO EXCUSE TO BLAME GREEKS FOR FAILURE OF TALKS. US (AMBASSADOR SHERER) THANKED WALDHEIM FOR HIS EFFORTS AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT WALDHEIM'S POSITION TO WASHINGTON WITHOUT DELAY.

8. USYG URQUHART SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD POLCOUNS THAT HE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT SYG MEET WITH THE GROUP IN ORDER TO COUNTER BRITISH GROUSING THAT WALDHEIM HAD SHOWN INSUFFICIENT ENERGY IN TRYING TO GET TALKS GOING. URQUHART WENT ON TO EXPRESS STRONG CONCERN THAT IF "VIENNA IV" DOES NOT TAKE PLACE OR ABORTS, PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS WOULD BE POOR FOR "LONG TIME" AND UN WOULD BE CHARGED WITH A MAJOR FAILURE. HE RECOGNIZED US HAS "NO MAGIC INFLUENCE" IN THE CAPITALS CONCERNED BUT REITERATED SYG'S HOPE WE WOULD DO OUR UTMOST. HE SAID IN CONFIDENCE THAT GREEK AMBASSADOR PAPOULIAS HAD TOLD WALDHEIM LATE JANUARY 28 HE WAS FEARFUL THAT CLERIDES WOULD BE "FINISHED FOR GOOD" IF TALKS FELL THROUGH. URQUHART CONSIDERS CLERIDES THE ONLY STATESMAN IN THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY.
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